

To Whom It May Concern:

I agree with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) that the current beginner license is too complex for the average beginner, however, I also believe that beginners should have an incentive to upgrade in license class, such as giving them two years to upgrade to the next license class or lose their license. To re-obtain a license the beginner class should be required to re-take the entry-level exam and take the next higher class exam to get licensed as the next higher class. I also feel, as a Technician, that the current power limit of 1500 watts PEP is unrealistic. Not many technicians require that much power to make any contact. Furthermore, I strongly believe the entry-level license should include limited access to the HF bands to sample, sort-to-speak, the long-range communication possibilities if they upgraded their license.

I have no comments on the proposed plan to restructure the General class license, however, I strongly believe the element 1 Morse Code requirement should be retained for Amateur Extra licensees in part of my belief that Morse Code is the most effective form of communications during any type of disaster and for general amateur contacts around the world. I also believe it is unrealistic to keep the "legacy" licenses on the FCC database because they are no longer issued, these licensees should be merged into the other classes that are closely related to their current privileges. I would also like to see the commission add more digital sub-bands in the HF bands to promote the use of newer technology by Amateur Radio operators.

Sincerely,
Rod Connor